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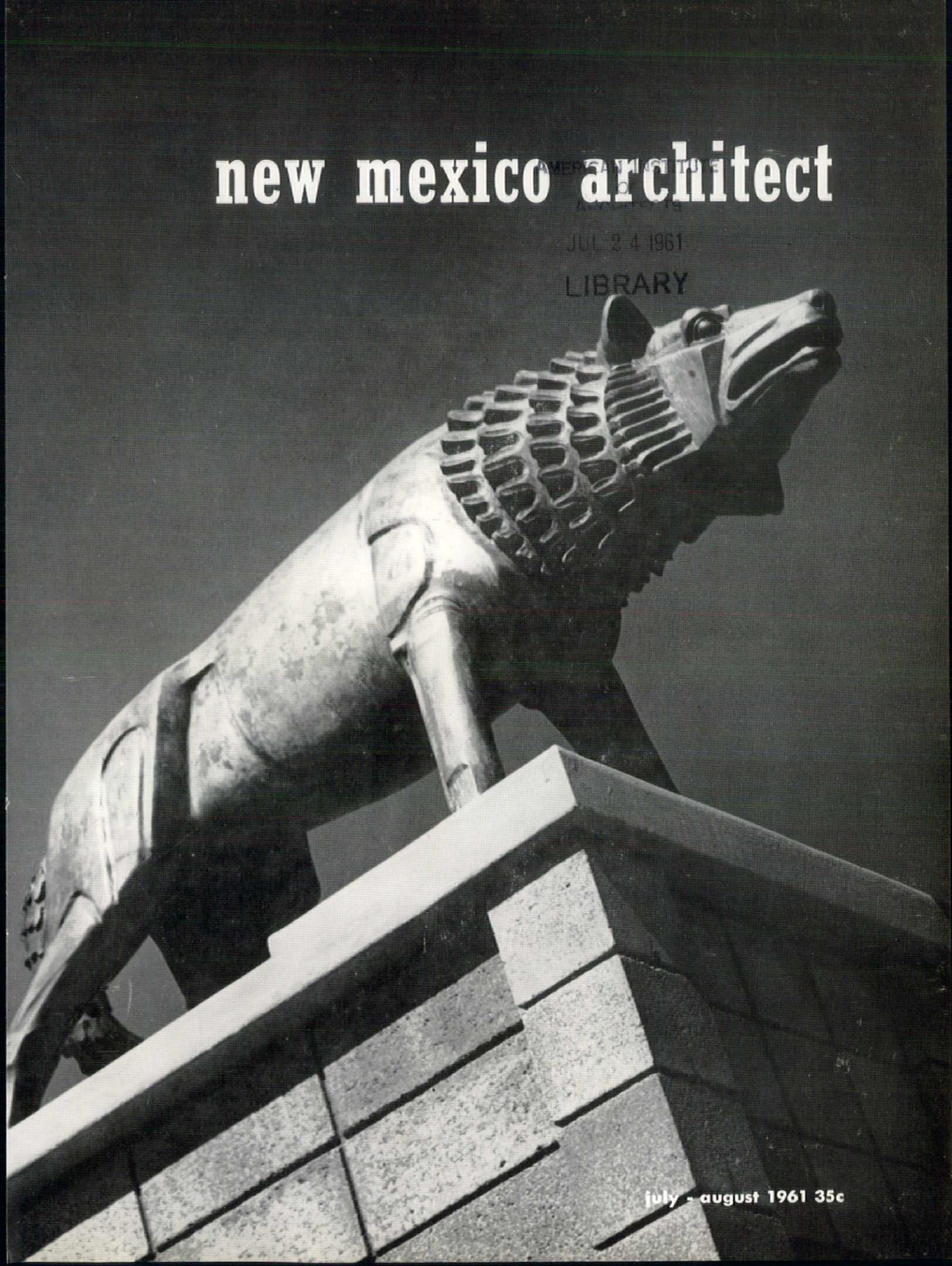

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(cover—"Lobo" by John Tatschl, Foto by Jean Rogers Oliver)

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CHAPTER NEWS

In the late winter the New Mexico chapter of the American Institute of Architects voted to divide the New Mexico chapter into three divisions to correspond to geographic divisions of the state. The decision was prompted by the vast distances in this area and the difficulty members experienced in getting to regular meetings. Application to create these divisions was made to the national organization. The following letter to Mr. Robert Biddle authorizes the division.

June 2, 1961

Mr. Robert G. Biddle
Chairman, Committee on Chapter Affairs
New Mexico Chapter,
American Institute of Architects

Dear Mr. Biddle:
I am pleased to advise you that the Board of Directors of the Institute took the following action at its pre-convention meeting, April 20-22. Resolved: that the request of the New Mexico chapter for the creation of divisions within the Chapter be and hereby is granted subject to the approval by the Secretary of the application papers.

The application papers are in order and hereby approved; therefore, the geographic divisions of the New Mexico chapter are recorded as defined by the by-laws submitted with the application.

In order to implement the Board's resolution, recently publicized to all chapters, to add division officers to the Octagon's mailing list, will you please forward names, addresses and term expiration dates of officers of these three divisions to our Chapter Affairs Department secretary at the Octagon.

Sincerely,

J. Roy Carroll, F.A.I.A.
Secretary, A.I.A.

The officers of the three divisions are as follows:

SANTA FE DIVISION

Chairman	John P. Conron
Secretary-Treasurer	Robert H. Krueger
Director	Van Dorn Hooker

ALBUQUERQUE DIVISION

Chairman	Don P. Schlegel
Secretary-Treasurer	Mary Louise Grace
Director	John B. Reed

SOUTHERN DIVISION

Chairman	Hugh W. Rowland
Vice-Chairman	Wilbur T. Harris
Secretary-Treasurer	Edwin C. French
Director	Jerome G. Hartger

The continuity of the state A.I.A. will not be impaired by the new arrangement. Under the new by-laws, the New Mexico chapter of A.I.A. will meet as a whole four times a year. Otherwise it is up to each division to establish its own meeting schedule. The Santa Fe Division has already decided that it will meet once a month for luncheon, on the second Thursday. With this new arrangement a more vigorous A.I.A. organization should certainly result.

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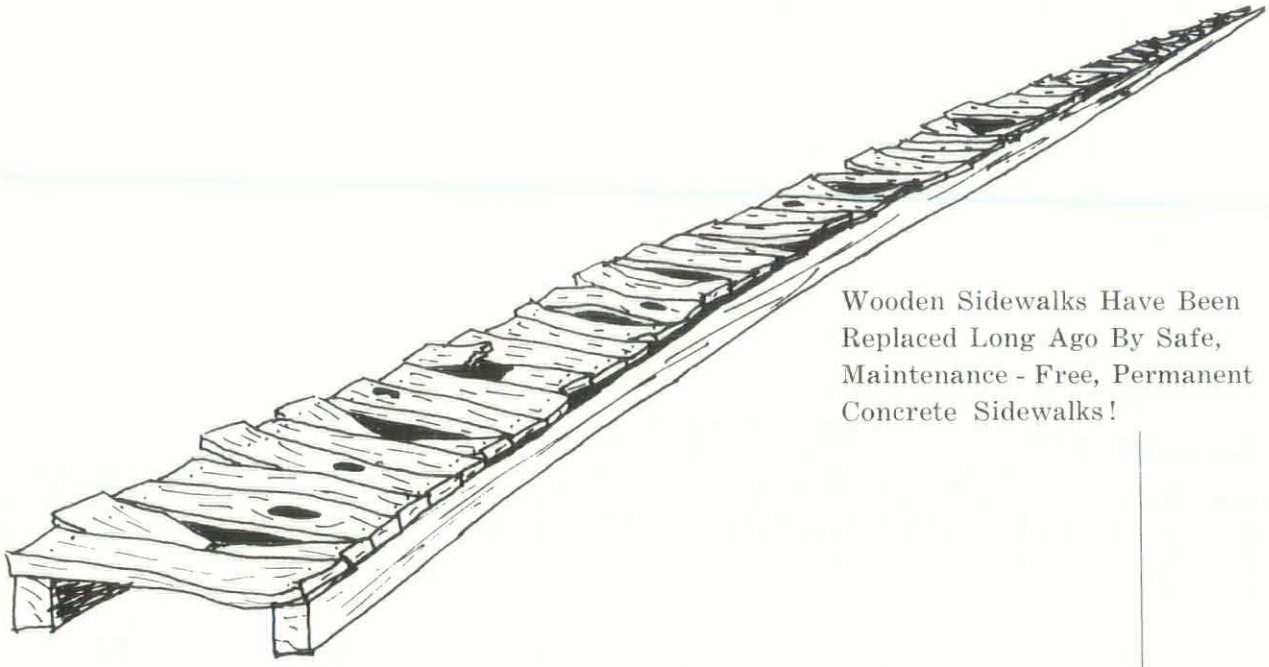

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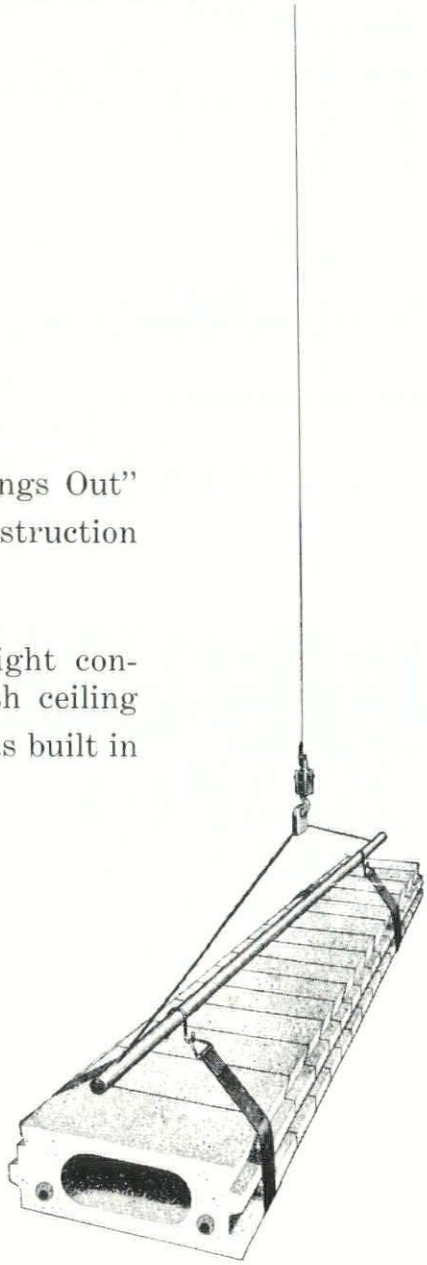

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RESPONSIBILITY OF ARCHITECT TO OWNER

Harry M. Prince, F.A.I.A.

Mr. Bainbridge Bunting
Editor, New Mexico Architect

Dear Mr. Bunting:

The enclosed is a paper which I will read at a seminar of the New Jersey Society of Architects and New Jersey Chapter, A.I.A., in Asbury Park, New Jersey on June 8-10, 1961.

You may find the copy attached of sufficient interest to publish in the NEW MEXICO ARCHITECT — the very splendid publication of the New Mexico Chapter, A.I.A.— which I read with a great deal of interest.

Kind personal regards to all my good friends in the New Mexico Chapter.

Cordially,
Harry M. Prince, F.A.I.A.

A cynic, fond of paradoxes, observed that owners, architects and builders are inseparably divided. There is truth in the jest. Economics, legal and moral obligations have relentlessly drawn them together. In this togetherness, diverse beliefs in what does or does not consist of "extras" keeps them ever apart. To try and make order out of these apparent contradictions, there has been assigned to me for discussion, the responsibility that we, as architects, owe the owner.

The position of the owner in the building field is most important, but variable. Many an owner takes part in building only once during his lifetime. Even those who are continually engaged in building are frequently but the customers of the various branches of the building field, rather than active components. As the architect's client, the owner may be a potent influence, temporarily. As a group, however, they strongly influence building in many ways.

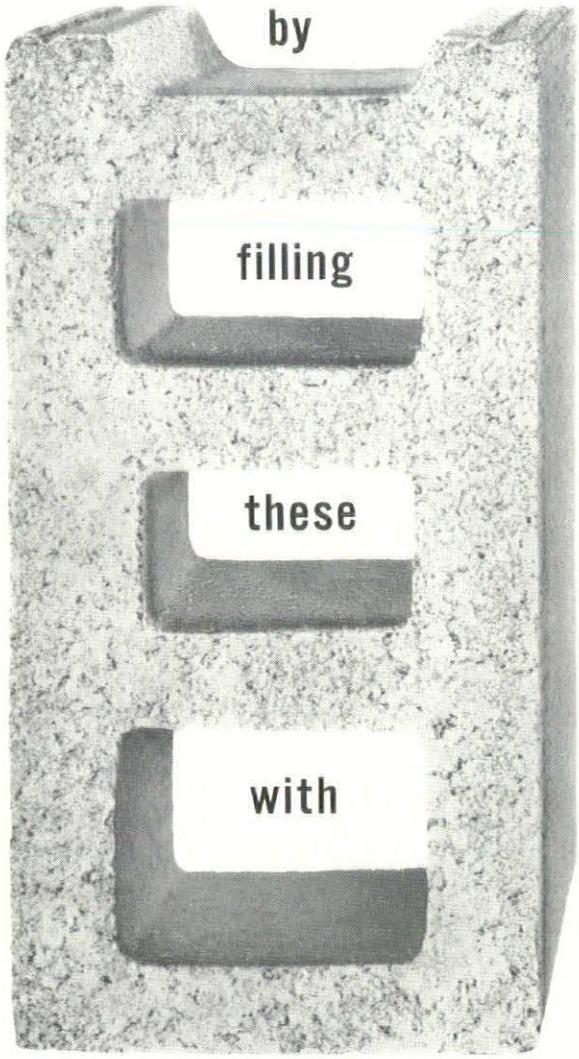
Everyone here, I am sure, is aware of the American Institute of Architects' standards of professional practice and obligations of good practice which requires that the profession of architecture be composed of men of highest integrity, business capacity and artistic and technical ability. An architect's purpose, according to the Institute's standards, must be above suspicion; he must act as professional advisor to his client, the owner, and cause the owner to feel that the advice of his architect not only is absolutely unprejudiced, but his duty also carries with it the moral responsibility to exercise judicial functions between client and contractors. These responsibilities of the architect to the owner can be properly discharged only when the motive of the architect, his conduct and ability are such as to command the respect and confidence of not alone the owner but of the contractor as well. The relationship of the architect to the owner depends, I repeat, upon good faith, yet it should be borne in mind that an architect must, nevertheless, protect the interests of the contractor as well as those of the owner.

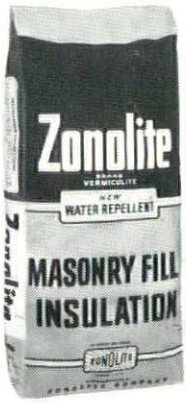
The architect is not acting in the best interest of his owner when the architect condemns workmanship and materials that are faulty because of his own mistakes. It is a similar disservice to the owner to call upon a contractor to make good the oversights and errors by the utilization of general or "grandfather" clauses in the contract documents which call upon the contractor to provide workmanship and materials for items the architect had forgotten to include. This is dishonest and assuredly not in the best interest of the owner. It is a clear violation of fair play, as well.

The architect who can never make up his mind as to the material to be used and then specifies an "or equal" is also doing his client-owner an injustice. It is the duty of the architect to discuss materials with his owner prior to the writing of specifications and to make suggestions as to what, in his opinion, is the best selection for a particular use and then specify that make or material. Likewise "alternates." What started out to be a helpful device to meet the owner's pocketbook has deteriorated into an outrageous drain on the contractor. The architect's responsibility to the owner should be to discourage alternates as an imposition on both the architect and the contractor — a sort of double service for one fee.

In the June issue of Harper's magazine there is a rather startling article by Mr. Daniel N. Friedenberg, a real estate operator, predicting a coming bust in the real estate boom. To put it mildly, this article by Mr. Friedenberg has stirred up a great deal of discussion. Mr. John Crosby, in the New York Herald Tribune of Wednesday, May 31, in commenting on the context of the Friedenberg article, comes to the conclusion, and I quote, "Real Estate speculation has always attracted some of the biggest scoundrels in the world."

KEEP YOUR CLIENTS COOL





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Crosby also refers in his article to a vast number of what he calls "sleazy" buildings that have gone up.

While I am not yet ready to join with these estimable gentlemen in their predictions or castigations, I do, on occasion, ask myself as to where the architect is deficient in his obligations to his clients, and if he is doing all that he should toward trying to preserve some sense of aesthetic values for his community as a part of his overall responsibility as an architect.

One may rightly ask also, if the architect is performing his full responsibility when he acquiesces to a design and plan which is nothing more than a series of drawings showing a maximum land use enclosed in an outer shell of thin veneer skin which someday may leak like a sieve. Is he performing his professional duties and responsibilities to the owner when, solely because of the cost factor he permits a defective air conditioning system to be designed by his engineers and approves shop drawings without test, which may substitute inadequate mechanical equipment for the specified items?

Is the architect performing his professional duties in accordance with Institute standards, when he certifies upon completion of a structure that it is in full accord with his plans and specifications, when he is fully aware that substitutions have been made by the owner during construction without his advice or consent or should we recognize that possibly there is something wrong. Wrong, not only inside the profession, but outside as well. If the level of remuneration we receive from our client-owner is not adequate, then are we morally wrong in accepting a low commission to perform an incomplete service when we know in advance the fee inadequacy makes it impossible for us to fulfill our responsibilities and obligations.

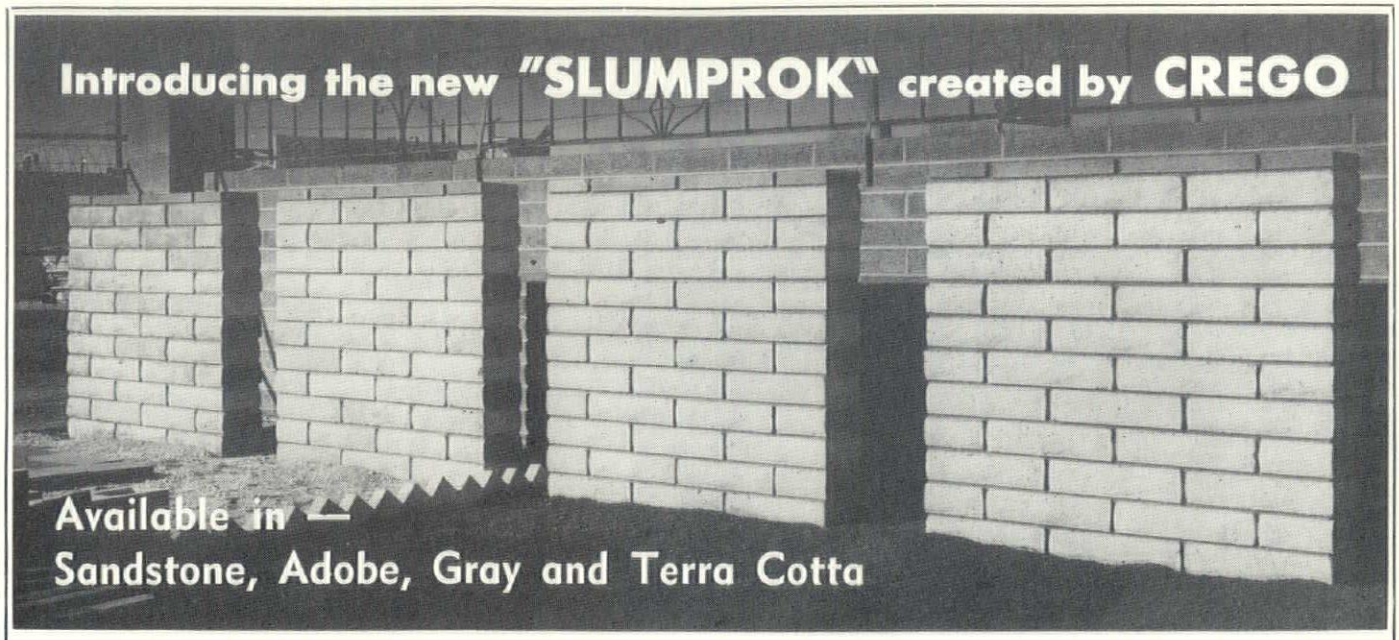
While I reiterate my disagreement as to the coming bust in the real estate boom, predicted by Mr. Friedenberg, I do venture an opinion that unless we submit ourselves to a re-evaluation and self-analysis, we will certainly find a growing appeal to owners to use unit design-construction services, on the assumption they will receive a greater degree of responsibility from the architect-engineer-builder. This is, of course, a fallacy, for even with some apparent weaknesses, the architect of integrity — and he is still in the great majority — holds his responsibility to his client-owner as a professional duty and trust to be maintained impartially, unmarked by any selfish profit motive.

Every profession bears a national responsibility beyond the individual's response to the routines of his calling. The measure of such responsibilities is the measure of his professional stature and professional freedom. If we architects fail, we become nothing but employed technicians; not a profession, but a trade.

The answers, I hold, are up to us. I am positive we can and will meet the challenge.

Thank you, Mr. Prince . . . . .

the EDITORS.



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a PLAN for CAMPUS EXPANSION • • •

JOHN CARL WARNECKE and ASSOCIATES
Architects and Planning Consultants

Alerted by experience to the hazards of rapid growth and confronted with the certainty of even more rapid expansion in coming years, the University of New Mexico in 1959 wisely decided to develop a campus plan adequate to the demands of the future. The University in 1955 had John Gaw Meem, architect for the University until his retirement in 1959, draw a campus plan based on an enrollment of approximately 14,000. By 1959, it became obvious that a plan based on a far larger enrollment would be necessary, and it was at that time that the Regents decided to engage the services of campus-planning specialists. However, several important features of the 1955 plan were retained in the new one.

For the new plan the regents of the University secured the services of John Carl Warnecke and Associates, architects and city planners of San Francisco. In August, 1960 the results of the intensive research and planning of this group appeared in a handsome brochure, *The General Development Plan*. This booklet presents both the Warnecke firm's master plan for the campus and a summary of the facts and philosophy which prompted the design.

NORTH CAMPUS

The actual planning of the physical aspects of the campus was begun only after careful study by the administration of the educational policy and needs of the University. Considered were such factors as tightened budgets, the increasing scarcity of highly qualified faculty, national and regional educational needs, a more selective admissions policy, the ratio of graduate and undergraduate enrollment and the optimum size of a university. Undertaken at a time when the University had some 7,000 students, the plan looked forward to an ultimate enrollment of 25,000.

The enormously enlarged university community is to be constructed on 500 acres of land which the University already owns in the heart of Albuquerque. This acreage comprises three plots which will be developed as somewhat separate units. The present or Central Campus, consisting of some 195 acres, will contain the academic core of the University. A 175 acre North Campus, presently occupied by the golf course, would contain a medical school and housing for some 3,000 single and married students. A South Campus of 130 acres, adjacent to the new stadium, would provide for additional housing, a fraternity row and fields for football and baseball.

CENTRAL CAMPUS

The basic concepts underlying the plan might be summarized under the following six points:

1. Related fields of instruction should be grouped together. Physical proximity is a convenience to students and staff and permits joint use of facilities which might otherwise be duplicated. Whenever possible related departments and research units should be grouped in clusters of buildings.

2. There will be an academic core centered about the present Library building. Within easy walking distance of each other, most classrooms will be situated in this area as would buildings containing the humanities and social sciences. Professional colleges will be situated beyond this central area while such non-academic activities as administration, research and residential quarters would be placed on the periphery.

3. The future campus is designed on the principle that foot and wheeled traffic do not mix. The Central Campus is oriented to the needs of pedestrians. A campus road system, modified to eliminate all through traffic, would still allow for adequate access to parking areas, servicing of buildings, emergency vehicles, etc. This independent campus road must relate to the network of city streets and provide sufficient points of entry to major thoroughfares to avoid congestion.

SOUTH CAMPUS

4. Land coverage by structures will be held to twenty percent. Buildings averaging two and one-half stories in height will be grouped to form close-knit patios and courts. These closed-in areas will be gardened in contrast to the desert planting outside the building complexes. A spacious park-like "green" will be maintained at the heart of the campus with the Library as its focal point.

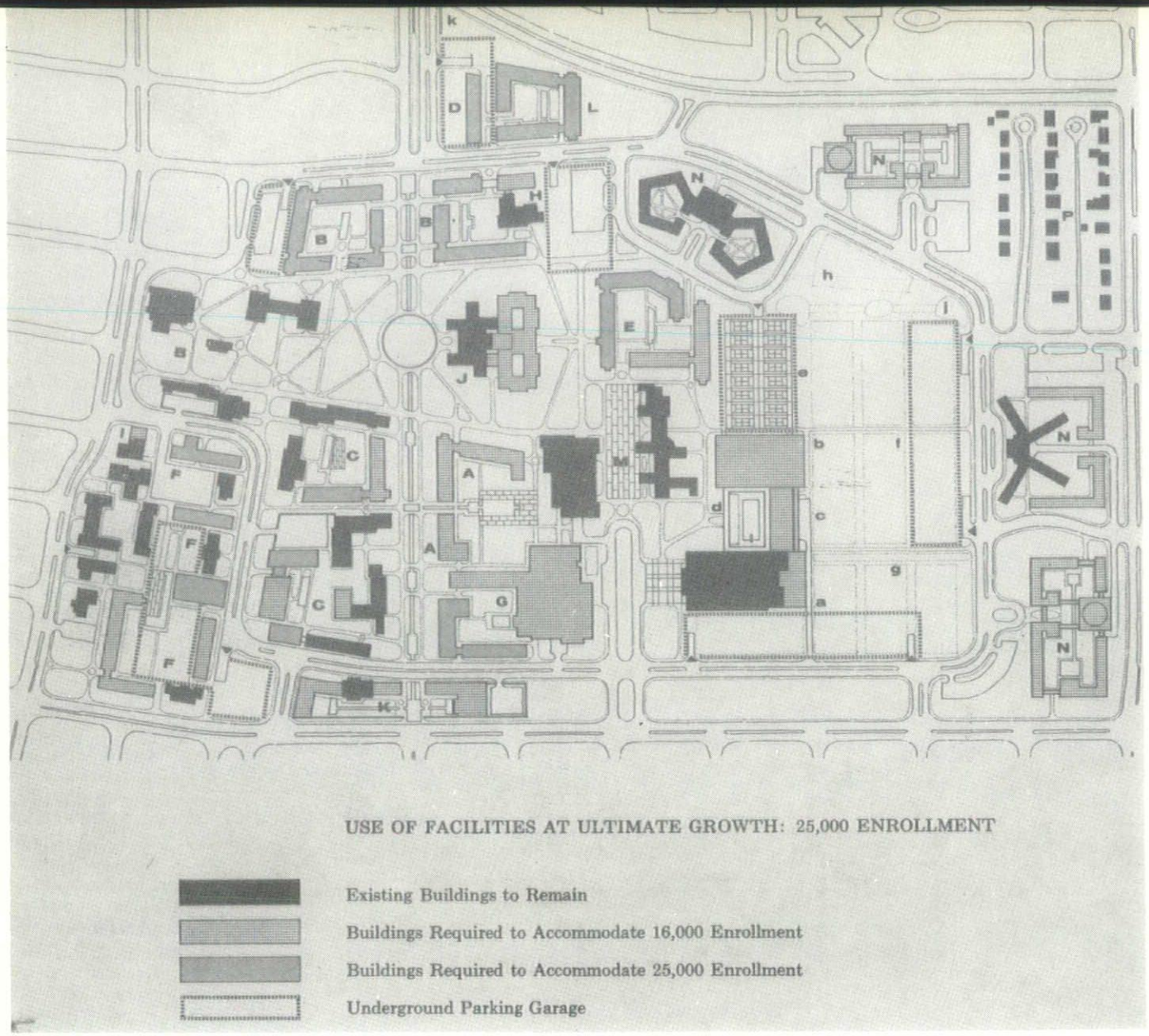
5. The Spanish-Pueblo style of architecture will be maintained in the Central Campus.

6. The Warnecke firm in this plan proposes only "ultimate and proximate" goals. They recognize that plans must be subject to modification as needs and conditions change. They attempt to indicate, therefore, directions for reaching desired goals rather than to fix with finality the solution. Details, they feel, can be altered without changing the basic organization and structure of the plan.

The General Development Plan indicates also the practical steps by which the University may make the physical transition from its present to its projected state. Three steps of the development were charted and the physical requirements of each stage indicated. First the present physical plant required for some 7,000 students was analyzed. The second stage of 16,000 students will, according to conservative estimates, be reached before 1970. To meet the demands of this enrollment, the present university plant of some 1,400,000 gross sq. ft. will have to be increased by a million feet. Specific requirements foreseen during this stage of growth are for a Fine Arts Center, buildings for the College of Education, additions to the Library, buildings for social science, business administration, civic and electrical engineering, expansion of biology, chemistry and physics facilities, a new building for the administration, university hospital and infirmary, general classroom buildings, student services plus athletic and recreational facilities. Estimated costs of these facilities run to $23,000,000.

Residential quarters costing another $8,000,000 will be required, in addition to those now existing, for 1,500 single and 400 married students. Accommodation of a student body of 25,000, the final estimated size of the University, will necessitate still another million feet of buildings.

One interesting aspect of the General Development Plan concerns cam-



pus parking. The study predicts a need of 4,000 parking spaces for staff and students when the enrollment reaches 16,000. Surface parking areas may be sufficient for this load. But when the parking needs double with a 25,000 student body, 50 acres of surface parking — approximately 25% of the whole Central Campus — would be necessitated. At that time the University must provide underground parking facilities or acquire additional ground for off-campus parking.

In closing, a word of commendation is appropriate for both planners and university administration. The Warnecke plan is excellent yet realistic. Especially good is the solution of the traffic problem. In banishing the automobile from the heart of the campus, a "pedestrian preserve" is created where the student may move about in freedom and safety. The beauties of the green mall or desert planting can be enjoyed without interruption and the architectural unity of the campus will become more evident and impressive when buildings are not isolated from one another by congested streets and unsightly parking lots.

The University of New Mexico is to be complimented for its wisdom in commissioning the study in the first place and for the manner in which it has begun to follow through the plan. A good start has been made on the recommended peripheral campus road, cross campus traffic has been impeded and at least one street converted into green lawn. New buildings are being commenced in the order of priority and planned in an architecture congenial to the tradition of the UNM campus. Given this good beginning, one trusts that future regents and administration will not depart from the General Campus Plan. — *B. Bunting.*

The editors of NMA hope to analyze in greater detail the various new university buildings as plans for them are developed.

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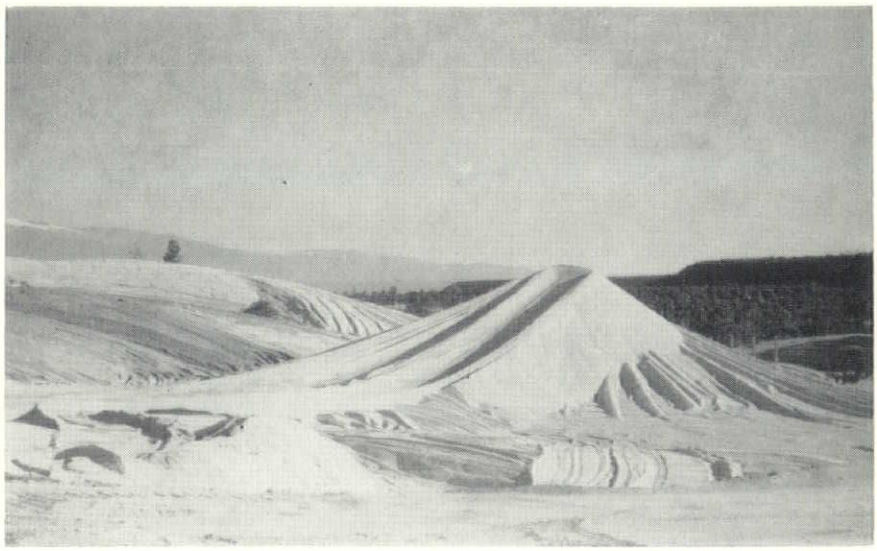
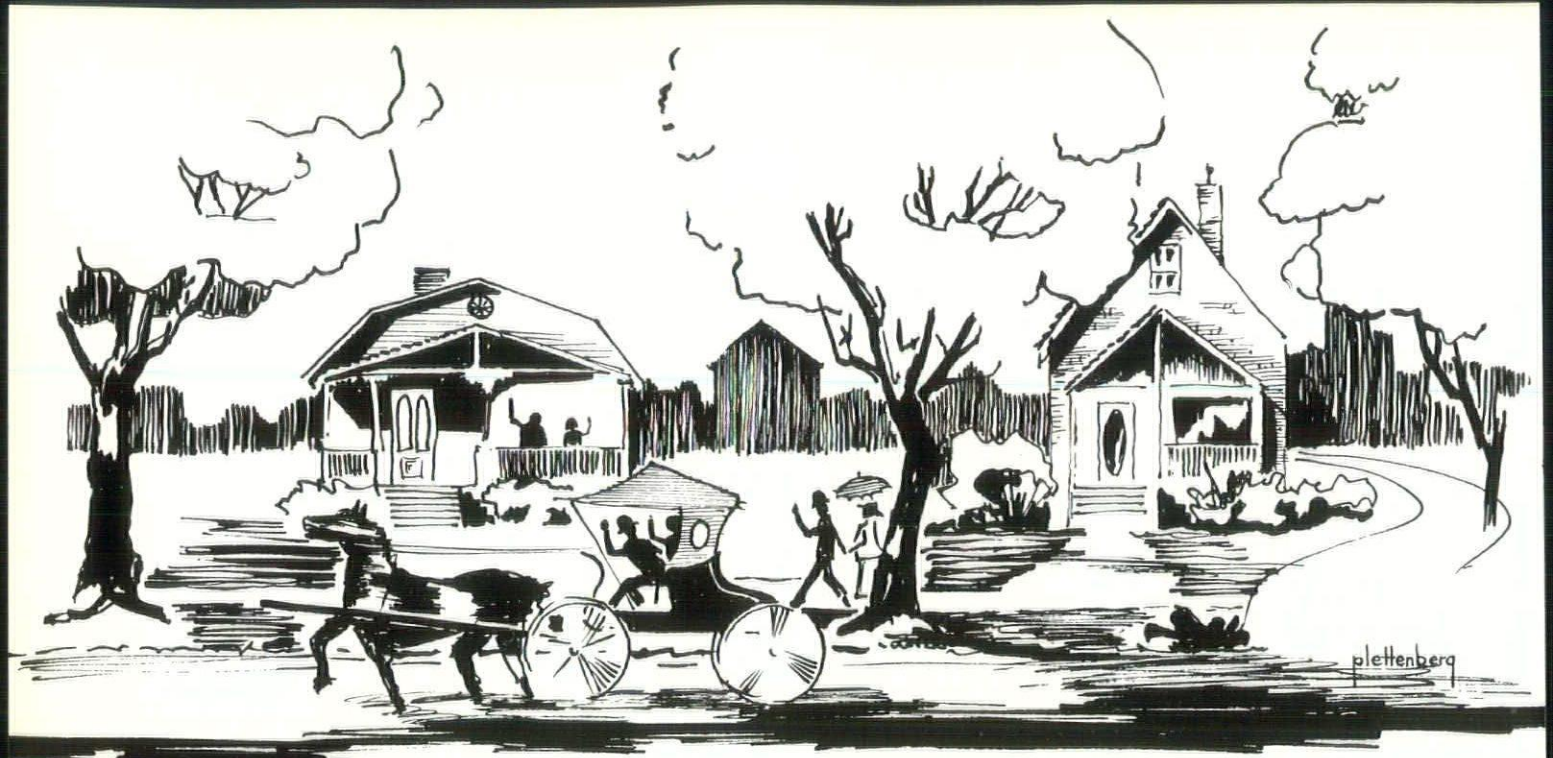




. . . and the front yard is in back

As the carriages have disappeared from the city street scene, so have the neighbors. The front lawn that linked the two is the only remaining vestige of a time that was eons ago . . . yesterday. The front lawn used to be an oblong of grass bounded on the north by a shady street and on the south by the front porch swing, but now it has become an extension of the noisy, boisterous street itself and its only reason for existence is to act as a foil for the picture window and its constant, inescapable companion, the table lamp.

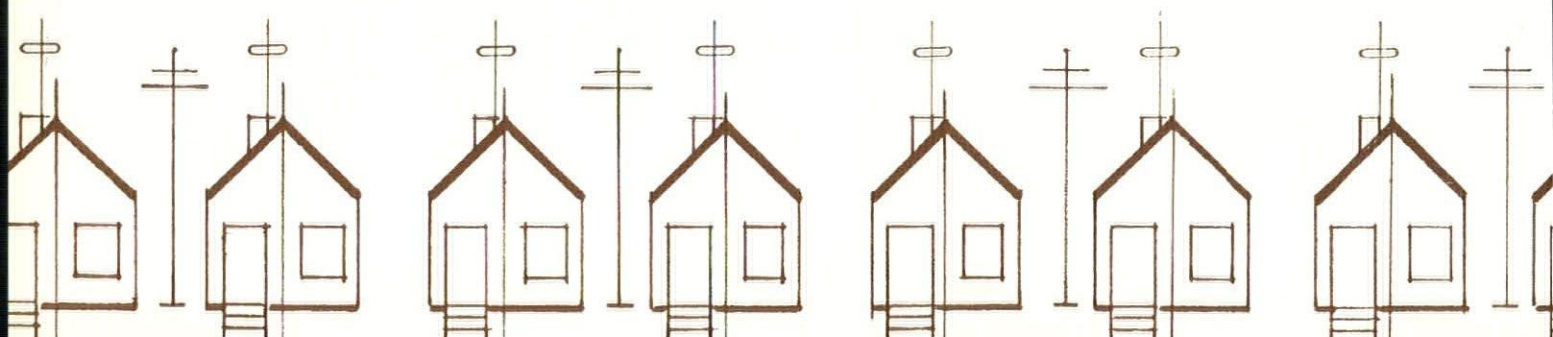
This barren, unimaginative development in the residential facade did not come instantly, it took overnight. It received a generous assist from many corners of the American *way of life*—the miracle called radio and the marvel called television, the neighborhood movie and the family car—anything and everything that offered escape from sitting on the front steps and observing the close of a day's activities.

And this purposeless plot of ground has now become an architectural planning challenge.

As every client's residential problem has a potential to be developed architecturally in plan and form, so does his residential lot—from north property line to south; from east to west. This is even more critical when the corporate client undertakes a housing project type of development where an area larger than the individual site must be considered. If large projects were on irregular lots, casually disposed geographically and with interesting topography and beautiful vistas, the problem would not be so demanding. Economic necessity requires, however, that such large areas be considered simply in terms of existing conditioning factors: traffic approaches, utility layouts, drainage gradients, maximum building area etc. One workable solution repeated again and again unto monotony seems the only answer if the builder is to achieve production and profit.

It is this *total building site*—this entire piece of ground deeded to an individual family—that must be considered that family's home . . . their *place of residence*. It is the responsibility of the architect to design the entire site as the living quarters for the client. He must consider sun, shade, breezes and winds, privacy from delivery men and neighbors as well as privacy for the individual members of that particular family. He must consider efficient layout of utilities and economic land usage for driveways, walks, gardens and living areas with their individually desirable and undesirable views and orientations. Only then is it possible to decide which areas of the total site shall be partially sheltered for outdoor living and which areas shall be completely enclosed for controlled climate. This, then, is the *home* . . . the entire lot designed with a select portion enclosed, decorated, heated and furnished.

The ideal site will probably always be something like a multi-acre, hilly, wooded slope with distant views of mountain ranges gently or precipitously slop-



ing to a river valley below where city lights are visible. However, the city lot with neighboring houses, streets, noises, odors, dust and oftentimes confusion is a true challenge. In this instance every factor has to be carefully weighed and exploited or muted to achieve proper balance and relationship. This is problem enough when faced with the necessity of dealing with existing buildings, utility poles and high wires as incontrovertable statements that stand stark and bold for all to see; but there also exists another factor every bit as concrete in statement, but not as evident to the layman's eye—the space envelope. This is a result of fire and police protection problems, easements, service access, population density and maximum buildable heights: a three dimensional chunk of space, like an unopened package, sitting within the prescribed legal limits of the owner's property that must be respected by the designer. Only in rare instances, requiring much time and trouble, may it be violated. Standard zoning setbacks are stamped on building sites from coast to coast and from southern latitudes to northern. Front yard, back yard and side yard setbacks hold regardless of sun angles, wind patterns or a myriad of micro-climatology conditions.

This too, then, contributes a great deal to the monotony of our American streets—the same mass-produced design decisions that cause housing projects to be dull cause our towns to be dull on a nation-wide scale.

Only through considerate design with flexible restrictions can monotony be relieved and full exploittation of the individual site design be permitted. Consider the depth of the front yard—which oftentimes is as much as the street right-of-way itself—and then increase this space by another third for the setback of the house on the opposite side of the street. Approximately 100 feet separates the house on the north side of the street from the house on the south side, although only 10 to 20 feet is felt necessary to space neighboring houses on the same side of the street. This front yard represented a functional use of space up until fifty years ago when the rear yard was occupied by carriage houses, wood yard, clothes lines, vegetable gardens, privies, etc. The homeowner developed, planted, manicured and was able to enjoy the front yard from the swing on the front porch from which he viewed and hailed lifelong friends and townspeople as they passed by in open buggies. The back yard was an overgrown eyesore, while the front yard became an outdoor living area furnished with croquet sets, lawn swings and an occasional lemonade or ice cream social.

Today the neighbors change often and are seldom well known. The front porch has disappeared, the trees are gone and unknown faces of neighbors speed past, visible through tightly closed windows of automobiles filled with sounds of radios, heaters, air conditioners and 200 horsepower engines. The home owner has disappeared from the front yard, too. He has retreated to the seclusion of the back yard, using his house as a privacy screen between himself and the unfriendly street. Unfortunately, with required setbacks crowding the space available in the back yard (often a garage is also located in the rear) the private yard becomes far too crowded and ineffectual. As the parlor has become antiquated and abandoned in the modern plan of the house, so too should the out of date front yard be reconsidered.

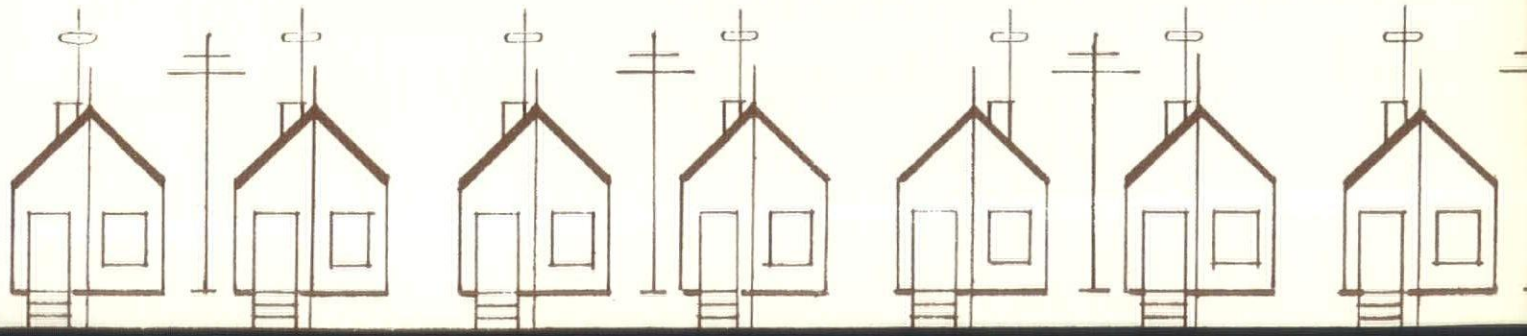
Front setback restrictions should be re-evaluated in terms of modern traffic design practices. Anticipated street widening should no longer be a reason for deep front yards—increased traffic flow in the future should be diverted around residential streets to peripheral arterials. Setbacks can be re-evaluated again on the basis of current fire fighting practices and police protection measures.

Another question regarding private outdoor areas in the rear queries the functional orientation of the private patio for houses on opposite sides of the street. In a climate with moderately cold winters and with winds from the north, the house on the north side of the street has a rear yard in the worst possible location, while the house on the south side has a sunny, wind-protected, enjoyable orientation. Thus it follows that the rear yard setbacks and house location restrictions should be weighed. Hypothetically, a proper ordinance would allow houses on the north side to be located close to the rear (north) lot line with a high walled patio on the south side of the house—perhaps with the garage located on the street line. (sketch, top page 16). The house on the south side of the street should be located, if desired, closer to the front (north) lot line with the protected patio again to the south.

These relationships change only in detail when the orientations are east-west. The modification would simply allow locations of houses closer to north, side-yard property lines.

With these allowable variations as tools, the site planner of large projects has an even better opportunity than the individual site planner to create good site usage because the project planner can control the neighbor's plan as he works on the subject plot. The project planner, ever searching for maximum amenities with minimum development expense, again has the advantage of considering a number of houses as a group of structures located about private courts—if he can break down rigid setback restrictions.

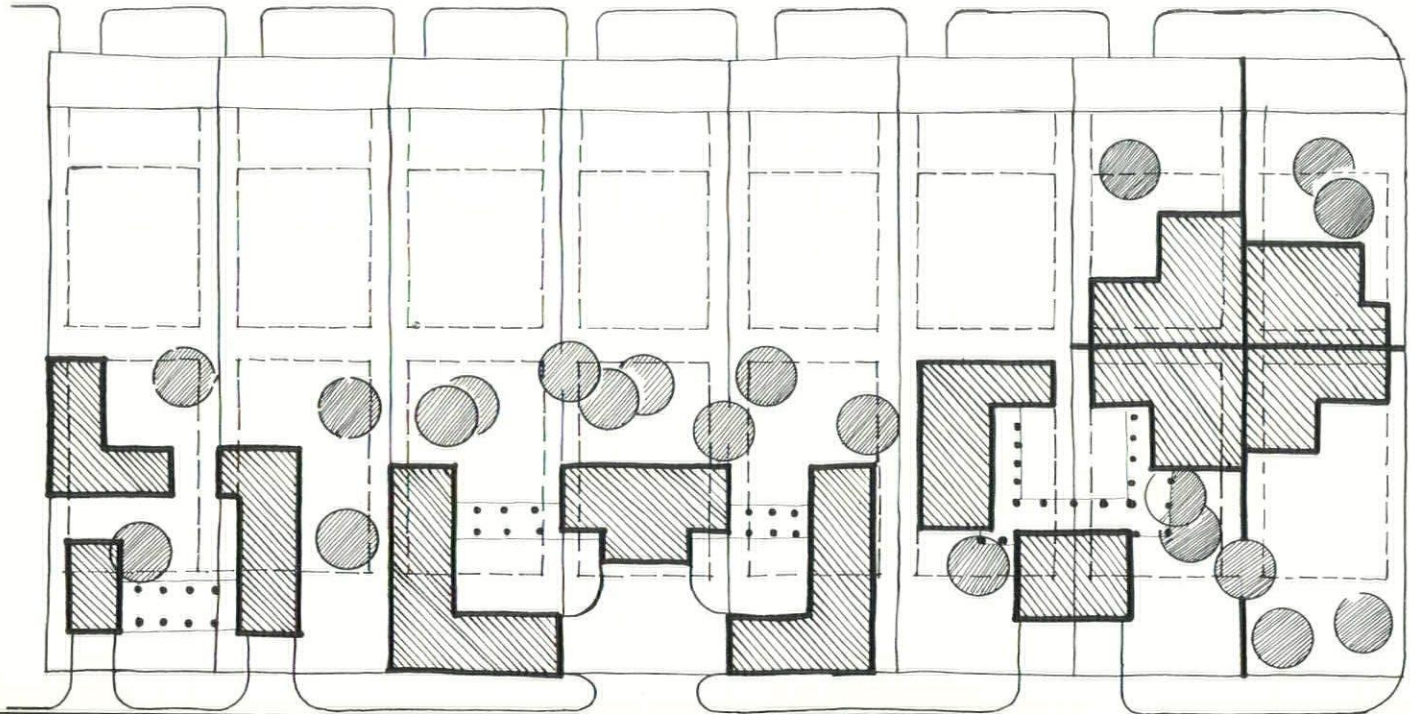
In Santa Fe, New Mexico, as well as other old towns in the Americas with Spanish ancestry, a type of row house has developed that is known as a "compound." In detail they may differ from one another, but generally they consist of a number of living units sharing one large plot for common privacy and shared



utilities. These apartments may be connected by party walls, presenting a long unified facade walling the street but irregular in plan, affording tiny private patios in the interior of the plot for each unit. Moderately high population density can be gained without losing the feeling of individual houses. The result actually provides a greater sense of space, light, air and privacy than is often achieved by the free-standing house stuck in the center of its individual plot of ground. (Sketch, bottom of page). A tremendous delight and intrigue is given the residential street character when it is possible for the motorist to occasionally penetrate the street facade and catch a covert glimpse of a private, shaded, interior patio. Houses no longer have a dull, monotonous, barren quality—they become animated, inviting and look like *shelters for human beings*.

One closing thought concerning the present street facade with its setback restrictions would be the desirability of allowing some portion of a house plan to protrude beyond the setback line if the remaining area of the house sets back far enough to balance it in light, air and space. This would be a real accomplishment, easily achieved with very minor amendments to existing ordinances. Such controlled irregularities would immediately produce relief for the row-upon-row, all-in-a-line type of house placement now designated by ordinance.

—*Robert Plettenberg*



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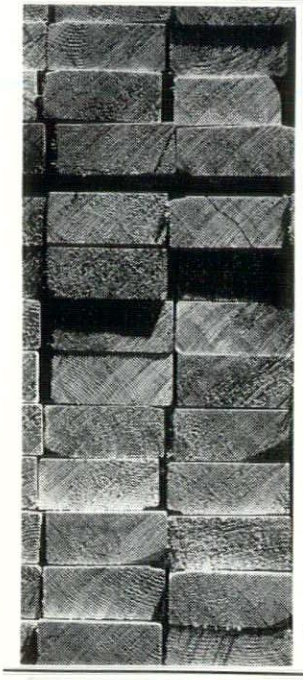

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THE SECOND YEAR ARCHITECTURAL STUDENT

Charles W. Quinlan

☐ *This is the second in a series of articles which are arranged to promote an awareness of the teaching aims and techniques of the Department of Architecture. The article concerning the First Year Architectural Student appeared in the May - June 1960 issue.*

The curriculum of the Department of Architecture extends over a five year period. The first year of the program is devoted to courses in English, algebra, trigonometry, two and three dimensional design, materials and methods of construction and architectural design. The second year of architectural training is a critical one for the student. As in the first year he is plagued with "outside" courses such as calculus and analytical geometry, general physics, and engineering statics. I say "outside" courses because, unfortunately, this is the way that they are too often regarded. I am sure that everyone, at some point in his schooling, has failed to understand the importance of a particular course; but, it appears normal for each architectural student to regard any activity, save design, as superfluous. Frequently this disturbing attitude or a lack of ability in the direction of the supporting courses cause a student's downfall. Assuming, however, that the student can successfully master the required courses, he must, during this second year of formal training, decide if the architectural vocation is an appropriate choice. It is the sentiment of the Department of Architecture faculty that it is unthinkable for a student unsuited to the discipline to go beyond the sophomore level. Every effort, therefore, is made to counsel each class member carefully. The student receives an indication of his academic standing each time one of his projects is graded, but mere passing grades are not the full story for an "A" student may intensely dislike design work, and the barely-squeaking-through "C" student might better give up the struggle. Choosing one's lifetime activity is a difficult and critical responsibility.

This is an account of the second year design program that was followed at the UNM this past year. Two sections of the course were offered in order to establish a more efficient student-instructor ratio. As each student is required to develop personal solutions to the problem, individual attention from the instructor is mandatory. The program started off with a short problem, of two weeks duration, concerned with a fishermen's retreat. Required were rapid solutions to problems of site, climate, circulation and architectural character. Primarily, this first problem is presented to make the student rapidly cognizant of the type of faculty criticism and the caliber of work he is expected to execute during the year.

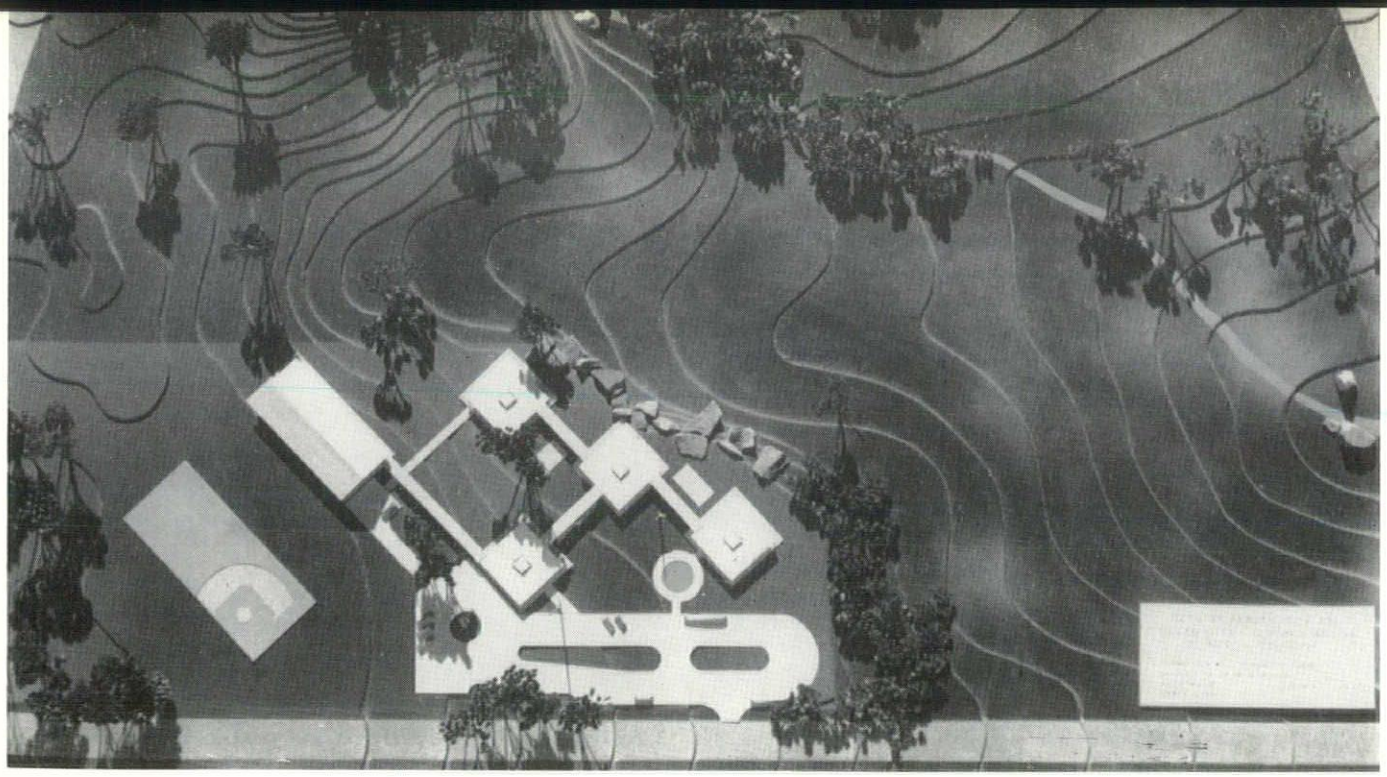
The major part of this first term was devoted to city planning and its ramifications. I like to tell about a class problem my son had at age four and one-half while in day school. The teacher was attempting to make her class aware of the family unit and hit upon the idea of a field trip to find where this family unit resided. Off they went to search the immediate neighborhood, and lo and behold one of those bright four year old girls did spot a house. After a semester of studying the family group objectively, the teacher suggested that perhaps the place that each child leaves in the morning might possibly be a home which contains a family unit. What a gigantic step for their little minds to take.

You actually do not see and understand until you do on the spot research, but once a situation is investigated thoroughly there is no difficulty in applying research techniques to similar problems. In much the manner of the day school class, our sophomores used Belen as their subject for research. Here they discovered that physical layouts of all cities have many features in common and that it is possible to discover the underlying factors which govern growth patterns. For this case study an expeditionary force invaded Belen for first hand study of local conditions. Team reports on vegetation, drainage, soil conditions, rock outcroppings, water supply, climate, transportation, public utilities, public and private lands and buildings were developed; a land-use map was prepared. The physical layout of Belen was then studied in relation to urban planning done in ancient and medieval periods as well as modern times. Outstanding residential developments and planned "utopias" were also reviewed. The next phase of the problem dealt with the depicting of Belen as each designer envisioned it twenty years hence. A degree of existing conditions in Belen were to be respected and knowledge of city planning principles was to be demonstrated in the problem solutions. Succeeding aspects of the problem dealt with certain common building types which one would find in such a locality: a neighborhood shopping center and multi-family dwelling units. But here we did not want to get beyond general planning concepts and basic architectural character. Thus, after spending the better part of a semester, the cityscape, which at first appeared quite nebulous, was gradually defined in understandable and relatable terms.

A degree of flexibility is necessary in any syllabus. Based on problems submitted during the first semester, it was obvious that more attention should be paid to graphics. A bit of juggling was done to fit in a week of rendering exercises.

Two sections of sophomore design were continued in the spring semester as almost all students continued with the course. An effort was made, however, to switch instructors to allow the student's exposure to a different personality. The initial design problem of the second semester was involved with site planning an elementary school. Each student was asked to manipulate five buildings to satisfy circulation and site conditions. The space relationships involved three classroom units, an administration unit and a multi-purpose building. After considering drainage, slope, sun, safety, vehicular and pedestrian circulation patterns, the solutions were presented in the form of models.

Sprinkled between regular assignments are sketch problems, a carry over from the old *esquisse-esquisse*. These problems, of short duration (4 hours) and fanciful nature, are calculated to rejuvenate the designer by playing upon a possible sudden exuberance. One such problem was concerned with a temporary flower stand which was to be placed in a public park. Schemes were to be presented in prespective form, thereby forcing practice in graphic techniques.



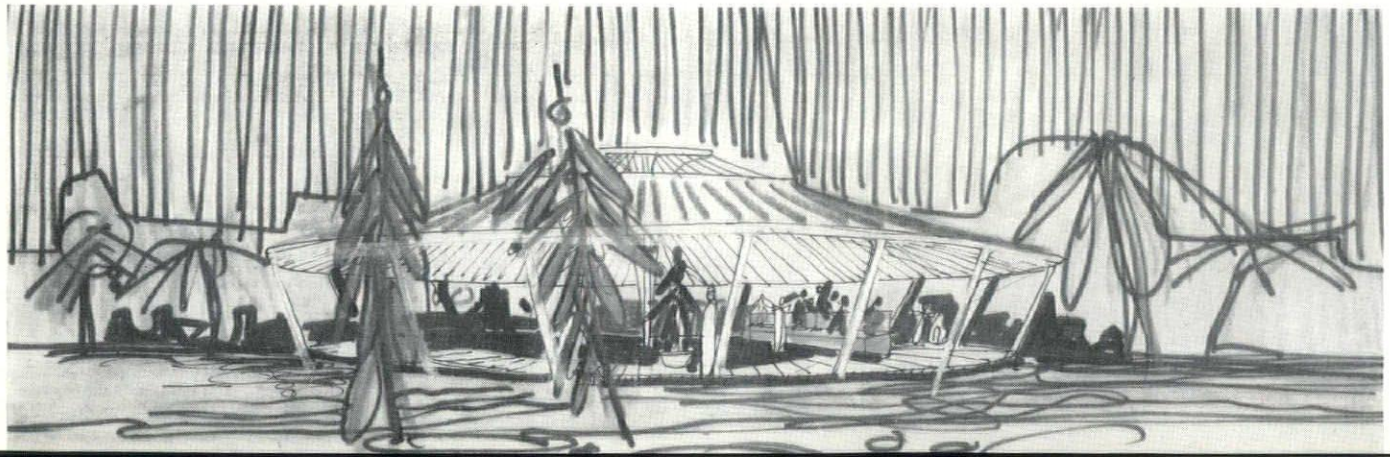
A very successful series of seminars were conducted this term on the achievements of various prominent architects. Many students harbored disproportionate admiration for relatively unimportant architects and as a consequence these group talks proved iconoclastic in nature. Images of many architects were evaluated and put into proper perspective. Such well-knowns as Le Corbusier and Mies van der Rohe were discussed as well as lesser figures like Gio Ponti, Frederick Kiesler and Juan O'Gorman. Each personality was investigated as to education, experience, works completed and influences. Speculation was made as to what the future would hold for the man's design philosophy. These reports, plus appropriate bibliography, were stenciled and assembled in a handy booklet for future reference. Reports on urban planning of the previous term were also preserved in this same fashion.

The site planning problem was followed by the annual competition problem, this being done in collaboration with the College of Pharmacy. Each architectural student was assigned a pharmacy senior who served as client for the design of the interior of a pharmacy. Retail circulation and selling techniques were studied using perspectives and large scale building sections. Much time was spent deliberating the best way to handle the numerous sundry items which often obscure the prescription counter in the non-ethical pharmacy.

Next came a fun problem — serious fun. Each student was asked to determine what characterized exhibition buildings by developing a temporary structure to display information gathered during the International Geophysical Year. The I.G.Y. of 1958, as you know, saw the greatest concerted study in man's history of his planet and its surroundings. Perhaps, what is more important is the fact that *all* nations united in this monumental project. The students' problem lay, then, in creating an atmosphere suitable for displaying information gathered during this formidable effort and in such a way as to make it attractive to the non-professional.

An entire week was next devoted to the practice of opaque water-coloring. Other delineation techniques will be examined at the first opportunity. The remaining three weeks of the school year were allocated to the architectural space relationship of a long-span structure and a small adjacent building as might be needed for an industrial complex.

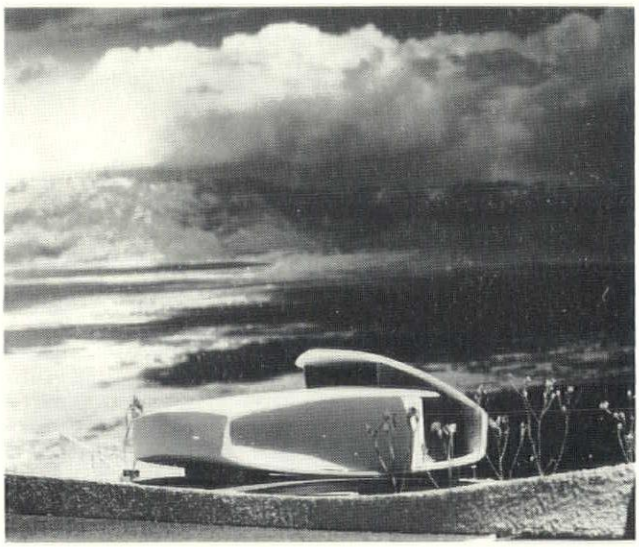
Twenty-seven of the beginning class of 33 sophomores will now move up to third year work which is essentially the same in nature, although slightly increased in scope and detail. Failures and drop-outs were



not out of proportion when compared to other departments. It is most important that only the well-prepared reach this junior level for each submission should indicate an increased proficiency in architectural solution, presentation and comprehensive understanding. It is anticipated that eventually ten of this class will complete the undergraduate program in architecture.

The primary objectives of sophomore level problems are to define precisely space relationships, circulation and architectural character. The students' projects are judged by the department faculty, ably assisted, quite frequently by some member of the architectural profession.

The curriculum of the Department of Architecture is so arranged as to acquaint the student with the profession of architecture. In this respect the success of instruction is of vital interest to the practicing architect and to the building industry. Upon completion of the University requirements, the graduate enters your office to participate in the architect-in-training program. The Department of Architecture remains alert to advances in teaching methods and to the changing scope of the profession of architecture. —*Charles W. Quinlan*

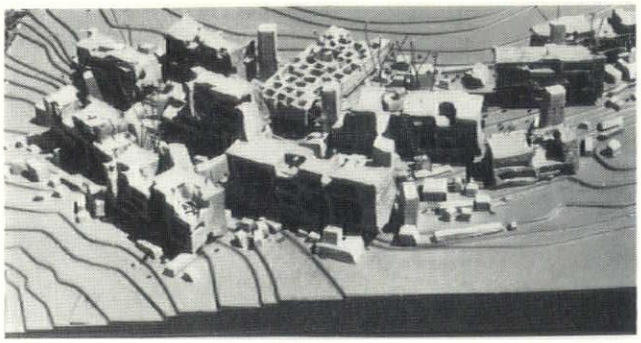


Upper left. Stanwood Formes, second year. Three week site problem: A School.

Lower left. Leroy Velasquez, fifth year. Four hour sketch problem: A Retail Flower Shop.

Above. Jimmy Sumida, fifth year. Senior thesis: A Concert Hall for Albuquerque.

Lower. Anthony Predock, fourth year. Six week problem: A Resort Hotel for Juno, Alaska.



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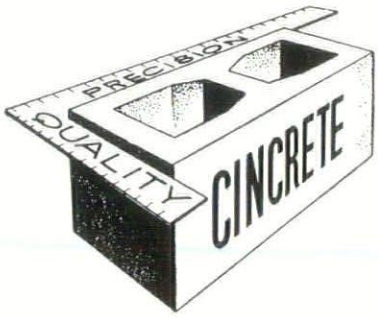

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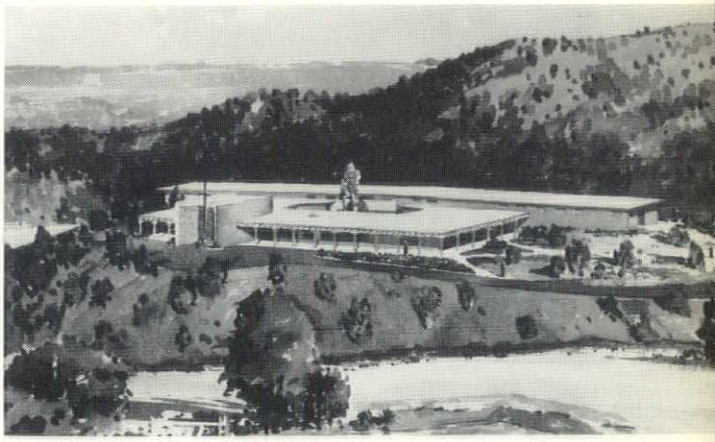

A retreat for the Christian Brothers Conference of Major Superiors in the United States is now under construction on a 700 acre site about 5 miles east of Tesuque, N. M. The property lies in the foothills of the Sangre de Cristo range. The building is situated on a levelled-off, isolated hill some 50 feet above the surrounding terrain. Approximately 20,000 yards of earth were removed to level and lower the site.

The building, which is expected to be completed in May, 1962, contains a chapel, classroom, recreation room, kitchen, refectory and miscellaneous rooms. Sleeping accommodations are provided for the staff of six and for 34 retreatants.

The retreat recalls the regional style of architecture in its use of a continuous portal with carved corbels on the south and west elevations. It departs from tradition in the absence of parapets except on the chapel. This was done to eliminate possible roof leaks and to reduce the appearance of height. Interior treatment is simple with the exception of entry and chapel which contains carved wood screens, carved doors, stone altar and other embellishments.

The general contract for $170,170.00 is held by E. Montgomery of Taos. Mechanical contractor is L. E. Meyer of Santa Fe; the electrical contractor, Modern Electric Company also of Santa Fe.

DORMITORY for ST. MICHAEL'S COLLEGE

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Philippe Register, Architect

Construction is expected to start in September, 1961 on the second in a series of permanent buildings for the St. Michael's campus. The first building, now nearing completion, is a combination classroom and library.

The dormitory consists of two similar two-story wings each containing 30 double rooms, a proctor's apartment and a second floor lounge. These two wings are connected by a one story building with visitors lounge.

Materials for the dormitory exterior are brick with accents of pre-cast stone veneer. White stucco will also be used but only where it is shielded from weather. The simple interior treatment will use exposed concrete block in individual bedrooms and ceramic tile in the bathrooms.

The long range plan for the College includes three additional dormitories, administration building, student union, additional classrooms and laboratories, permanent library, chapel, auditorium gymnasium faculty housing, etc. This master plan which places important buildings around a pedestrian mall was formulated prior to the start of any permanent buildings.

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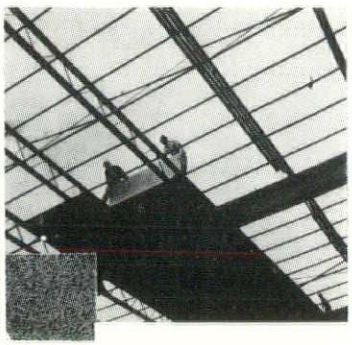

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NOTES ON READING

Herbert Read, THE FORM OF THINGS UNKNOWN. *Horizon Press*, NEW YORK CITY. *$6.00.*

The question may well be raised as to why a general book of this type is included in the review section of a magazine devoted to architecture and its allied professions. This reviewer's answer would be that it is becoming increasingly necessary for the serious architect to gain a broad or more objective perspective on his work and the relation of his work to society at large. A book such as this supplies a stimulating and provocative insight into the whole aesthetic process including that of architecture.

Essentially, Sir Herbert Read is interested in relating the arts to our contemporary world at large, to the prevailing scientific philosophy of our age and finally to the daily lives of each individual. For according to the author, " . . . art became, in every great civilization, the embodiment of its finest feelings and deepest intuitions." Read treats a wide variety of general and very specific problems related to the arts —by which he means architecture, sculpture, painting, music and literature. Chapters range from "The Limitation of a Scientific Philosophy," to "Created Form" and to "Art and the Development of the Personality." Read's own emphasis on the continual need for cross fertilization of the arts well illustrates why anyone of us would benefit by the breadth and the depth of his humanistic approach. —*David Gebhard*

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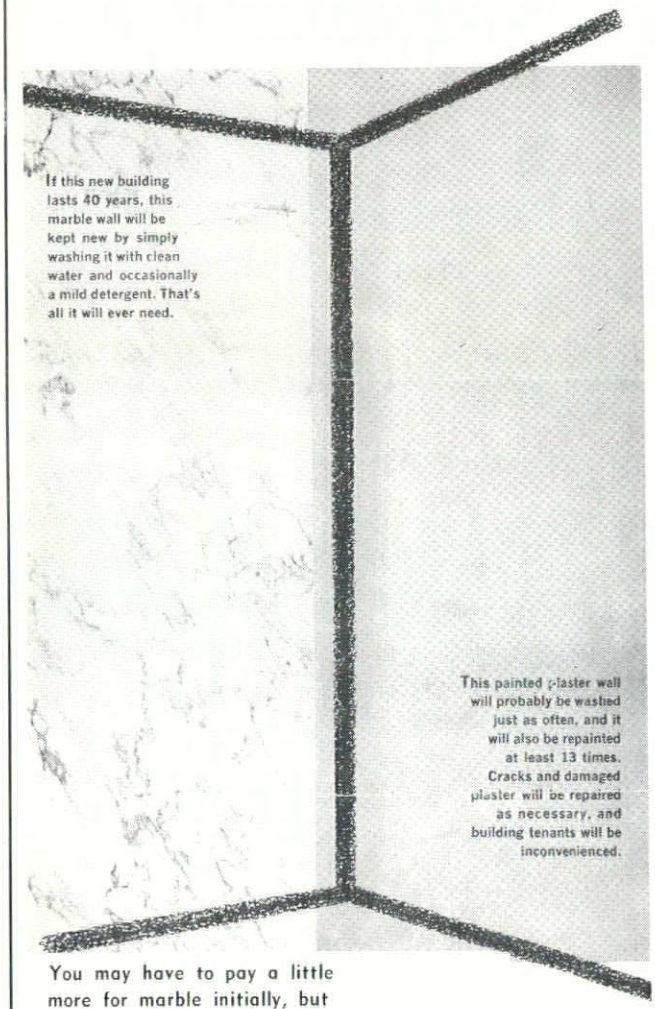

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CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS ISSUE

Charles W. Quinlan teaches second year architectural design at the UNM. He received his architectural training at Cornell University, worked in architectural offices in New York City and Norfolk, Virginia before coming to Albuquerque, and is currently with Louis Hesselden. The other second year design instructor is Harold Benson, author of the article on Winrock in last issue of *NMA*.

Harry M. Prince, F.A.I.A. is a former president of both the New York Chapter A.I.A. and the New York State Association of Architects. His office is in New York City.

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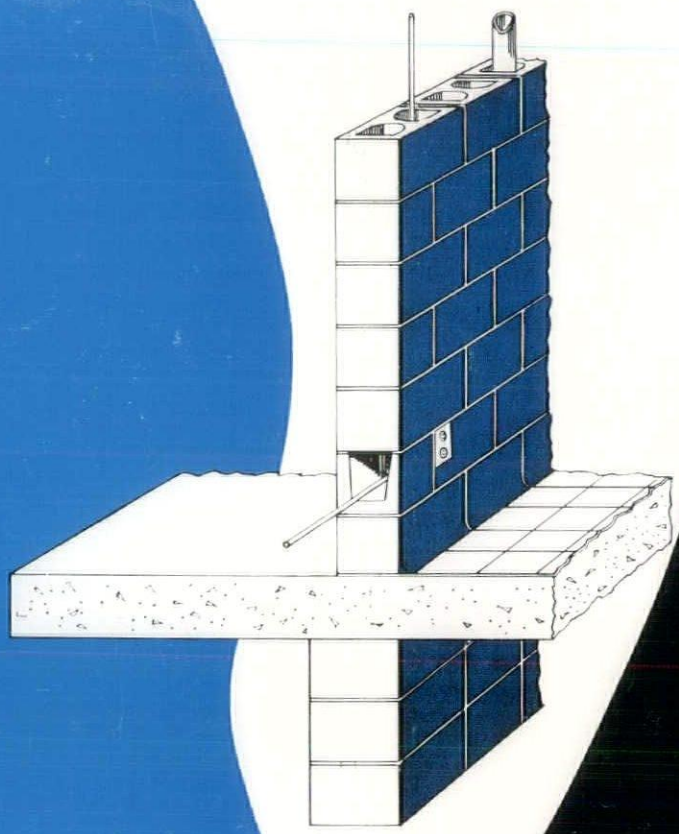

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